Wadham College Chapel

The College Chapel is a place for all members of College as well as their families and friends. The ethos of the chaplaincy is warm and friendly and seeks to provide a focus for the spiritual life of the whole College community. Chapel events are inclusive and gather students and staff with diverse perspectives on matters of faith, metaphysical enquiry and spiritual practice, without assuming any particular religious affiliation. The Chapel is open all day, and is a place where you can light a candle, sit quietly and reflect, read, offer prayers, or simply take time out in stillness and peace. It is a holy space where all can enter into the search for meaning, solace or rest.

Chaplain: The Revd Dr Jane Baun

The Chaplain is available to all members of the College community, including members of different faith traditions and those with no religious affiliation. Jane can be consulted in confidence on any matter of concern, whether personal, practical or spiritual – academic pressures, relationship difficulties, bereavement, anxiety or just life in general. The kettle is always on, and chocolate available. Jane is ably assisted by Maggie Mae, a mostly sheepdog who is always happy to listen, receive adoration, and give reassurance. (If you would rather meet Jane without Maggie in the room, just let her know ahead of time.) Please do get in touch: Chaplain@wadham.ox.ac.uk, phone 277 905 or find Jane in room 3:1.

Chapel People

**Director of Chapel Music**  Katharine Pardee (kfpardee@yahoo.com)

**Chapel Organist**  Julian Littlewood

**Chapel Wardens**  Juliane Borchert, Samson Dittrich, Oscar Heath-Stephens, Rachel McVeigh

If you would like to sing in the choir please contact Katharine Pardee. If you would like to read or lead the prayers at Evensong, or indeed help in any other way in Chapel, please contact the Chaplain – your offer of help will be gratefully received.

Follow us on @wadhamchapel
Sundays in Chapel 6 pm: Choral Evensong

Being Human

...if there is one great intellectual challenge for our day, it is the pervasive sense that we are in danger of losing our sense of the human

Rowan Williams (Theology, 1971 DPhil), Being Human (2018).

Chapel speakers this term will consider the theory, practice, performance, and lived experience of being human, from diverse angles.

1st week ★ 13 October Being Human
The Chaplain

2nd week ★ 20 October The Sorrow that leads to Joy
Joy Clarkson is a doctoral candidate researching the relationships between art and our emotions surrounding death. She spends her days effusing about the art she loves on her podcast Speaking with Joy, taking long walks on the Scottish shores of St Andrews, and drinking Yorkshire Gold Tea.

3rd week ★ 27 October Disability
Geographer, oceanographer, and geoscientist, Jory Fleming recently completed an MPhil in Environmental Change & Management at Worcester College. A thalassophile, he hopes to keep the planet beautiful and alive for the next generation. Over the past two years in Oxford, he has discovered the joys of tea and learned Scottish country dancing. Jory has both visible and invisible disabilities, and will speak to emotion, justice and how we view others.

4th week 1 November Failure and the Cross
Beverley Clack is Professor in the Philosophy of Religion at Oxford Brookes, with publications examining through a philosophical lens topics ranging from religion to psychoanalysis, feminist thought, mortality, and misogyny. Her talk will draw on her forthcoming book, How to be a Failure and Still Live Well (Bloomsbury, 2020).

5th week ★ 10 November Remembrance Service: Making Connections
It has become a Remembrance Sunday Chapel tradition for Wadham's own Jane Garnett, Fellow and Tutor in Modern History, to help us ponder larger issues of war and peace, sacrifice and service, through the experiences of old members of Wadham in the world wars.

6th week 17 November Hidden in Plain Sight: Modern Slavery
More than 200 years after the abolition of the slave trade there are still an estimated 40.3 million men, women and children trapped in modern slavery, and up to 156,000 potential victims in the UK alone. Caroline Virgo is Lead Officer for the Clewer Initiative, a project working to develop strategies to enable churches, organisations and individuals to detect modern slavery in their communities, and help provide victim support and care.

7th week ★ 24 November Queer Week service
Jason Barker is a film-maker and writer who also delivers training for the charity Gendered Intelligence. Earlier this year Jason’s feature film ‘A Deal with the Universe’, documenting his and his partner’s 15-year quest to become parents, was released in cinemas. Jason will be talking about his experience of being a ‘pregnant man’ and sharing some of his theories of gender.

8th week 1 December College Carol Service, followed by mulled wine and mince pies in Hall
Doors will open at 5.30 pm for this first come, first seated, traditional Lessons and Carols by Candlelight, showcasing our choir and featuring readers from across the College, pondering the Christmas story through tales ancient and modern.

★ On starred evenings Evensong is followed by dinner in Hall for all who have signed up beforehand.

Midweek Services and Events

Wednesday evenings 9.10-9.30pm – Late Night Meditation (Compline), weeks 1-8
A simple service by candlelight of chant, prayer, and meditation to end the day gently, in peace. Led by members of the Wadham community, using different styles, from medieval to modern.

All Saints and All Souls – Friday 3rd week (1 November), 12.30 pm (30 minutes)
An opportunity to light a candle and remember those close to us who have died. Names of those whom you would like to be remembered during the service may be given to the Chaplain ahead of time.

The Staff Service (Mindfulness Half-Hour) – Wednesday 4th week (6 November), 10.30 am
For Wadham staff members: a pause for reflection and refreshment, half-way through the term, followed as ever by drinks and biscuits.

Roman Catholic Lunchtime Mass – Thursday 6th week (21 November), 12.15 pm; all welcome.

Roman Catholic Evening Mass – Tuesday 8th week (3 December), 6 pm, all welcome.

Weekly Events for students

Please stop by 3.1 in term-time to join the Chaplain, Maggie Mae the welfare ‘cat’, and others for:

Tuesdays 11-12 – Drop-in Student Breakfast Club
coffee, tea, pains au chocolat, cinnamon Pop-Tarts, and more!

Thursdays 4-5.15 – Drop-in Student Afternoon Tea
tea, cake, and conversation

Beyond the walls

The Gatehouse
Volunteers are needed Tuesday–Friday 4-4.30 pm every week in term to take College food donations to Oxford’s evening drop-in centre for the homeless and vulnerably-housed; contact the Chaplain if you would like to help.

Wadham Chapel goes to the Ashmolean!
Wednesday 3rd week (30 October), Friday 5th week (15 November). Meet at the Lodge at 3.15 or on the Ashmolean steps at 3.30, to consider a particular aspect of Being Human through the Ashmolean collections, followed by tea and cake in the museum café as the Chapel’s guest.

Iffley Pilgrimage
Saturday 4th week (9 November) – a walk along the Thames towpath to Iffley village, with its stunning Romanesque church, followed by refreshments at the Isis Farmhouse; watch Chapel mailings for details.

Wadham Chapel does William Blake
Saturday 7th week (30 November) – meet other Wadhmites at the Tate Britain in London to see the William Blake exhibition; watch Chapel mailings for details. From the Tate website: ‘William Blake was a painter, printmaker and poet who created some of the most iconic images in British art. Radical and rebellious, he is an inspiration to visual artists, musicians, poets and performers worldwide...’ [This exhibition] will rediscover him as a visual artist for the 21st century.

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